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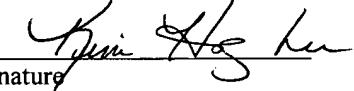
PATENT

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Kimberly H. Lu

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Curtiss III et al.

Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: 29 August 2003

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

For: Regulated Bacterial Lysis for Gene  
Vaccine Vector Delivery and Antigen  
Release

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

This preliminary amendment amends the claims of the application as filed.

Claim Amendments

1. (original) A host-vector system, which comprises
  - a. A host chromosome comprising
    - i. An activatable control sequence, wherein the activatable control sequence is activatable by an inducer;
    - ii. a sequence that encodes a repressor, wherein the sequence is operably-linked to the activatable control sequence; and
    - iii. at least one essential gene, wherein the essential gene encodes a polypeptide that is necessary for synthesis of a rigid layer of a cell wall of a prokaryote, and wherein the essential gene is inactivated;